

## **IX. LAND ACQUISITION**

The main feature of Jones Lake State Park is the 224-acre Jones Lake, a water filled Carolina bay. The park also includes the nearby 315-acre Salters Lake. The Jones Lake State Park Dedicated Nature Preserve includes 1,218 acres of land plus both lakes. The dedicated natural heritage area has populations of several significant natural communities.

Several factors are considered in determining whether a piece of property should be included in an acquisition plan. These include: data from the Natural Heritage Program and the Division of Water Quality; the park's existing identified needs; and the Division staff's surveys of the properties. Threats to these properties can be development, logging, and sedimentation from upstream development as well as other forms of irreparable damage. Needs and threats are evaluated to determine what additional properties need to be added to the acquisition plan of the park.

### **CURRENT ACQUISITION STATUS**

Jones Lake State Park contains 2,208 acres as of January 1, 2005. The primary focus of the park is the protection of the two Carolina bays and their natural communities.

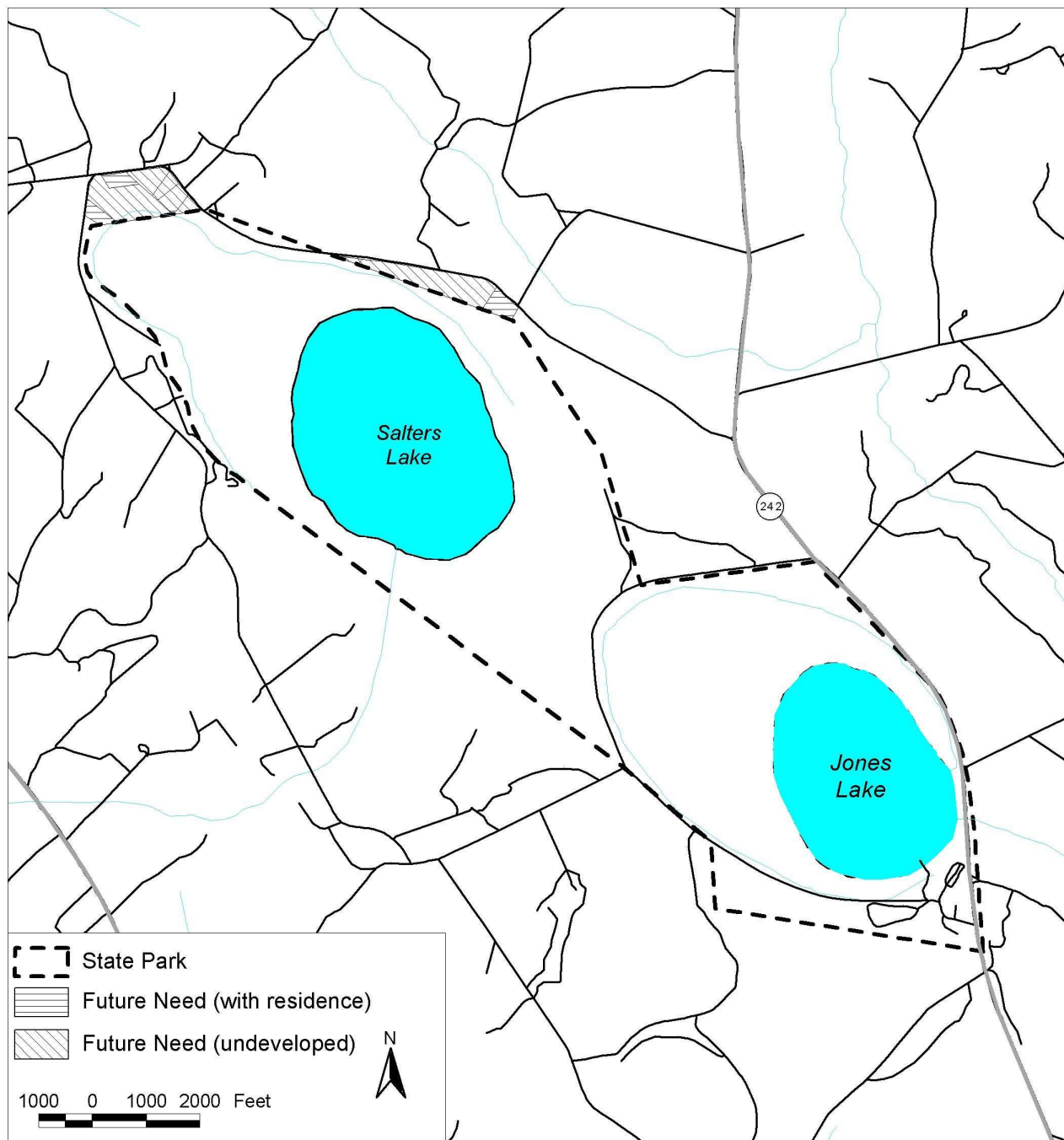
### **FUTURE ACQUISITION NEEDS**

Completion of the acquisition plan requires the acquisition of an additional 62 acres. The high priority acquisitions include parcels that lie between the existing park and Ruskin Road and Salters Lake Trail. These parcels will aid water quality protection for Salters Lake, remove adjacent incompatible land use, and aid boundary management.

### **ACQUISITION SUMMARY TABLE**

Current size of the park (January 2005)	2208 acres
Additional identified land needs	<u>62 acres</u>
Total planned size of the park	2270 acres

06/05



**Figure IX-1. Jones Lake State Park Land Acquisition Needs**